

Turkish Empire, therefore, is the Nish government is said to be desirous of shifting the responsibility for the decision to the Skupstina, which meets this week.

The danger of this course is that a majority are men of the peasant class, with no grasp of the complex European situation. They realize only that they are asked to give back to Bulgaria, which they regard as a state that in 1912 traitorously stabbed them in the back, territory conquered at the cost of thousands of Serbian lives. Therefore it is more than possible that they may refuse to listen to any arguments except those of local patriotism.

### Serbia Fears No Attack by Germans on Frontier

Rome, Aug. 16. Telegrams from Nish give the impression that the Serbian government does not look for a serious movement against that country by Austria and Germany soon. Serbian officials are said to consider the reported concentration of troops at Dravograd, Hungary, as being merely for political effect.

By this move, according to the Serbian view, the Teutonic allies hope to impress Rumania, Bulgaria and Greece and encourage them to redoubled efforts at the Dardanelles.

### Serbs Silence Austrian Guns in Twelve Shells

Paris, Aug. 16. A Havas dispatch from Nish, dated Sunday, says that on August 13 the Serbians, with a few shells, stopped the enemy from working on defenses in front of the village of Dobro, on the day Serbian artillery before Velocelo, near Belgrade, engaged in a duel with a hostile battery stationed at the village of Starchevo and at the twelfth shot silenced the enemy's guns, which had fired sixty shells.

### Turks Recapture the Town of Van

Constantinople, Aug. 16 (via wireless to London).—An official communication issued to-day says:

"The Caucasian front town of Van, which was evacuated August 14, has been recaptured by the Russians. In retreat, after destroying the neighborhood."

"In the Dardanelles region a new attack of the enemy north of Ari Burnu has been repulsed."

### Venezelos Says Greece Cannot Intervene Yet

Berlin, Aug. 16. The Athens correspondent of the "Tagblatt" sends this statement of the attitude of Premier Venezelos, expressed Saturday to a political friend:

"Mr. Venezelos believes now, as before, that Greece interests lie on the side of the Entente Allies, but that the time is not ripe for Greece to join the quadruple alliance actively. Greece should, therefore, preserve her neutrality for the present."

The correspondent adds that the question now is whether King Constantine regards these views as a proper basis for entering the future of Greece to Mr. Venezelos.

### Serbia Now Ready to Grant Concessions

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Nish, Aug. 16. [Dispatch to "The London Times"].—Prospects for the adjustment of the difficulties between the Balkan States have grown brighter in the last few days. So far is the Serbian government from being irreconcilable that assurances were given in the highest quarters to-day which made it evident that the way is open to a speedy agreement. This, however, must be of more general character than mere rectification of frontiers in one particular locality.

### HAILSTORMS FAIL TO HALT ITALIANS

Army Presses on Toward Riva—Austrian Seaplane Bom-bards Venice.

Brescia, Italy, Aug. 16.—The Italian advance east of Condo, thirty miles southwest of Trent in the Trentino, toward Riva, at the head of Lake Garda, has been continued, notwithstanding stormy weather and terrific hailstorms. Reports say that the trenches captured by the Italians are full of water in which bodies are floating.

### AUSTRIAN OFFICIAL

Vienna, Aug. 16.—The official statement issued by the War Office to-night says:

The Tyrolean front, after a long interval, the enemy yesterday opened heavy artillery fire against our fortifications, especially at Tonale Pass and on the plateau of Lavarone and Fiemme. Attacks by Italian infantry on the Tonale Road and against our Popena positions south of Schludersbach and in the district of Dreizeinchen failed, as did fresh attacks of the enemy at the head of the Tonale district in the sector south of Krn and an attack against the salient on part of the plateau of Dobers.

Four of the coast forts of Venice were bombarded by one of our seaplanes on the afternoon of August 15. All the bombs except one exploded within the fortifications. Of five hostile aircraft which ascended in pursuit of our seaplanes, one was shot down by our anti-aircraft machine gun fire; two abandoned the pursuit after some time, and the fifth followed our machine close to the Italian coast, where he was obliged to turn back. Our seaplanes returned safely in spite of a heavy fire from hostile war vessels and forts.

### To Beachwood Lot Owners

On and after June 30, and continuing through the summer, Central Railroad of New Jersey trains will leave from Liberty Street as follows:

DAILY EXCEPT SUNDAY:  
4:00 A. M., arriving at Beachwood 4:25 A. M.  
10:00 A. M., arriving at Beachwood 10:25 P. M.  
1:30 P. M., arriving at Beachwood 4:20 P. M.  
5:00 P. M., arriving at Beachwood 5:25 P. M.

### SATURDAYS ONLY:

1:00 P. M., arriving at Beachwood 1:25 P. M.  
SUNDAYS ONLY:  
8:45 A. M., arriving at Beachwood 11:15 A. M.  
FROM BEACHWOOD:  
6:44 A. M., arriving at Liberty Street 9:07 A. M.  
9:41 A. M., arriving at Liberty Street 12:05 Noon.  
2:41 P. M., arriving at Liberty Street 5:25 P. M.  
6:00 P. M., arriving at Liberty Street 8:25 P. M.

### SUNDAYS ONLY:

7:32 P. M., arriving at Liberty Street 8:55 P. M.

Tickets should be purchased to Beachwood. The round trip fare is \$3.00.

### COURT CALLS DACIA TRANSFER FRAUD

Explains Ship Was Seized as Prize by French Because of Illegal Registry.

Paris, Aug. 16.—The decision of the prize court in the case of the former Hamburg-American Line freight steamer Dacia, which was granted American registry in January but was seized by a French cruiser in February while bound with a cotton cargo for Bremen, was made public to-day.

The decision says that the prize court finds no proof that the transfer of registry was not made to save the ship from risk of capture in accordance with the law of war, but that, on the contrary, the ship under her new flag was making a voyage for which she had been loaded while still under an enemy flag. Therefore, the court finds the transfer "tainted with fraud" and orders the steamer seized as a prize.

The American-owned cotton cargo of the Dacia has been partially paid for by the French government through the ambassador at Washington.

### LOAN DELAYED, EXCHANGE SINKS TO LOW RECORD

English Control of World Finance Shaken, Sterling Touches \$4.64.

While bankers conferred yesterday on the matter of granting to Great Britain a loan which will permit the Allies to continue the purchase of war munitions and foodstuffs in this country on a large scale, renewed weakness developed in the foreign exchange market, and remittances on London and the principal Continental financial centres fell to new low records.

The reappearance of J. P. Morgan at his desk around the noon hour, after an absence of six weeks, served as a temporary stay to the declining quotations. It was at first thought that Mr. Morgan's presence at the bankers' conference meant that the pending plans for a big British loan were nearing completion, but when it became known that no definite arrangement had been made, exchange rates again fell.

In the Courland district Petrograd reports that the Germans fighting around Bauska have been driven back and their counter attacks repulsed.

### RUSSIAN OFFICIAL

The following official communication was issued to-night by the Petrograd War Office:

In the Bauska district (Courland) the night of August 15 our troops again drove the Germans back toward the river. The enemy's counter attacks were repulsed with great loss.

On the left bank of the Bug there have been no important engagements. In the other sectors on our front there have been local artillery fights, but no important engagements.

### GERMAN OFFICIAL

The official statement issued at Berlin to-day says:

Army group of Field Marshal von Hindenburg: During successful attacks on advanced positions at Kovno, 1,700 Russians, including several officers, were taken prisoners. A projected attempt to break through the Russian lines from the Narew to the Bug, after a crossing of the East Prussian border, was repulsed.

More than 2,000 prisoners fell into our hands. At Novogorodok the defenders were driven back still farther from their groups of fortifications.

Army group of Prince Leopold of Bavaria: During the night the left wing fought its way across the East Prussian border. The enemy's counter attacks were repulsed with great loss.

After the centre and right wings had captured Lysay and Medzyrzec yesterday afternoon our opponents offered new resistance in the sectors of Torgau and Klukowka, between Medzyrzec and Biala, but his resistance was broken down east of Lysay at daybreak by an attack of our artillery and tanks. The enemy is being pursued.

Army group of Field Marshal von Mackensen: The pursuit of the enemy continues. Gisle and Slawitzky have been occupying East Prussia. Our troops are advancing on the eastern bank of the Bug.

### AUSTRIAN OFFICIAL

The following official statement was issued to-night at the Austrian War Office:

In the district west of the Bug the pursuit of the Russians is proceeding energetically. Austro-Hungarian troops, advancing in the centre of the allies' line, are closely following the retreating enemy west of Biala across the Kikawka.

The divisions under Archduke Joseph Ferdinand last evening gained ground in the district southwest of Biala. They threw a bridge across the river during the night and crossed the river early this morning. The enemy's rearguards were repulsed wherever they offered resistance. The troops of General Kovetz pushed back the enemy across the upper Kikawka.

Near Biala and Brest-Litovsk numerous dark configurations were visible. Near Vladimir-Volynsky, where the enemy is expected to have a firm footing on the east bank of the Bug, and in East Galicia the situation is unchanged.

### Germans Ready for New Drive in Baltic Region

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

Petrograd, Aug. 16 (dispatch to "The London Times").—The general activities which are compelling the Germans to give immediate attention to the northern half of their campaign has changed the character of the operations. The deployment of six German armies, partly to forty-five corps, over a front of 180 versts, facing Osovets and Brest-Litovsk, shows that their future tasks in the woody, swampy zone of Polesie southeast of Brest-Litovsk, exclude the possibility of their turning the Russian left flank.

In the Baltic provinces the Germans are now reinforced, troops having been brought from Poland, where the army has been filled by the German battalions are expected now in the Baltic region, where the enemy has lately been compelled to harmonize his operations with the issue of the recent sea fight. He retreated pending the arrival of reinforcements at the same time keeping up his communications with the sea. Now that his reinforcements have arrived, he will make a stubborn effort to regain the lost ground. Meanwhile reports from Riga show that there has been a resumption of the normal life of the city.

Leading monasteries of Russia have asked and obtained permission to employ their workshops in making shells for the army.

### NEW YORK ISSUE OF BRITISH WAR BONDS PROPOSED

Problem of Debt to America Puzzles London Financiers.

Government Urged to Bring Out \$500,000,000 Loan in U. S. to Avoid Income Tax.

(By Cable to The Tribune.)

London, Aug. 16.—Important financial interests are bringing strong pressure on the government to try to check the downward sweep of sterling exchange in the American market by issuing there a large amount of short term high rate bonds.

The exchange rate continued downward to-day, at one time touching the lowest known record—4.64.

George Clare, head of a leading exchange house, said to-day that in his opinion the issue of short term bonds at an attractive rate for the New York market was the best solution of the situation, and he believed it would have to be adopted. He pointed out that the remedy held here had been virtually exhausted. He estimated that these rates had reached \$20,000,000 weekly for some time, and had aggregated about \$400,000,000, which was about all the relief feasible from that source.

### NEW YORK LOAN BEST

"The best course now," said Mr. Clare, "is one I understand is under consideration. It calls for the issue of a foreign loan, principally in New York, such a rate as to attract American capital to the United States. Probably \$500,000,000 would appear strongly to be the first time on record that Great Britain had placed a loan in a foreign country, and this may raise the question of dignity, but Germany, Japan and other countries have placed such loans in New York, and the time has come when we should do the same, as the sure means of relieving the abnormal situation growing out of the adverse balance of exchange against us."

The house of Morgan, Grenfell & Co. referred to Mr. Clare, who stated also that a means of relieving the exchange situation was understood to be under consideration, either through a loan or by the placing of a big credit in New York as advocated by E. F. Davies, chairman of the committee of foreign bankers on exchange problems.

### DEBT TO AMERICA GREAT

Rynolds Hooper, a financial authority, writing to "The New York Times," said that owing to the purchases of food and munitions from the United States for our own use and that of our allies we have become indebted to American merchants and manufacturers for a very large sum.

Discussing remedies, Mr. Hooper rejects the idea of paying cash for everything out of the proceeds of the recent war loan.

He says, "would be very inconvenient and might leave us dangerously short of cash for equally important purposes."

Mr. Hooper suggests "the creation of new means of our credit which will liquidate the debt. In other words, we must issue British government securities of a kind which will be marketable in the United States."

Mr. Hooper says that "any direct obligation of the British government would surely be readily taken up in the United States provided that the yield on the loan was not less than 4 per cent. Four and a half per cent, of interest on the war loan just issued, would, in the opinion of most buyers of American goods, be the first of good grounds, nearly full, for these conditions. It would not be full, however, because the interest on the war loan is liable to the income tax."

"The type of security required will be a loan with interest free from income tax and issued abroad. The type of security to be issued must be decided by experts and its form must be devised in a way that we may need to borrow in the United States, I am told, about \$500,000,000."

### Bond Issue \$500,000,000

"We could issue a bond which I believe would meet the requirements of our situation, and I think it would be a very good thing to do. It would be a loan with interest free from income tax and issued abroad. The type of security to be issued must be decided by experts and its form must be devised in a way that we may need to borrow in the United States, I am told, about \$500,000,000."

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### FRANCE DECORATES HER SOLDIERS IN SECRET

In the Night, on Battlefields and Behind Closed Gates, Republic Bestows Highest Honors—Tribune Man by Accident Sees Officers Made Chevaliers.

(From a Special Correspondent of The Tribune.)

Paris, July 27.—M. Millerand, Minister of War, officiated two days ago at a decoration of officers at which it was my good fortune to be present. I was coming out of the ministry, where I had been on business, and if I had not been already on the inside I would not have witnessed the ceremony, for when the hour came for the little group of officers to receive the highest honor the republic can bestow the great gates of the courtyard were closed against the public, and I was the only person not connected with the ministry who knew what was going on.

France has a strange way in this war of bestowing her honors in private. No journalist, for example, is permitted to mention the name of a general below the commander of an army. Each day the newspapers contain "The Book of Gold of the Army," which is the list of those mentioned in dispatches. These men will ultimately receive the Croix de la Guerre. But in "The Book of Gold" the man is mentioned by his last name and the number of his regiment. Christian names are not given, and "The Book of Gold" is to the ordinary reader not much more valuable as a means of identification than the Chicago street directory would be to a confirmed New Yorker. Some weeks or months later the man will receive his cross, but the fact will be carefully concealed by the government. A general officer will seek the "brave" out in the hospital and creep in at dead of night and pin the cross on his breast when no one would suspect that this event in the man's life was happening.

Decorations Not Made Public.

So it is with the Medaille Militaire and the Cross of the Legion of Honor. The newspapers publish lists of the last names of the men who are to receive the decorations, but if the decoration is actually pinned on in public the newspapers are not allowed to say anything more than that "some officer was decorated yesterday at the Invalides." Many officers and men have been decorated at the front and photographs of the ceremonies have even been published, but the names are always missing.

On this day at the Ministry of War I stepped into the courtyard and found myself in the midst of a little group of men in the variegated uniforms of new sees in the rear of the French armies. They were crowding up to the archway and gaining entrance into the grand court. Directly opposite was another archway, filled with another little group in uniform, while every window was blocked with civilian divvies of the ministry.

Out in the centre of the court was a line of fourteen officers with drawn swords, standing rigidly at attention. Five paces behind them was another line, the escort. Facing the front line was a platoon of infantry, each bayonet fixed and their rifles at the carry, while to their right were four drummers and two buglers. General Famin, of the Colonial troops, an officer of the Grand Cross of the Legion of Honor, walked back and forth, talking to two aids.

The combination of the rigidity and yet the simplicity of the arrangements made me think that a visit was expected from some personage who required a guard of honor, and I asked the soldier next to me: "What is going on out there?"

"The decoration," he replied.

M. Millerand appeared.

So I asked the name of the general officer and then waited for the ceremony. We all stood on tiptoe for several minutes until quite unexpectedly the platoon of infantry came to the front. "The minister," said my little soldier, and simultaneously there was a ruffle from the drums and bugles, and M. Millerand came down the steps of the ministry, attended by two civilian officials and an aid in uniform carrying a silver tray, on which were the decorations to be distributed.

M. Millerand is a man of about the average height, but he must weigh close to 190 pounds. Yet his weight is so evenly distributed that he does not seem fat, but gives one the idea of massive strength. He has a bulldog kind of face, thick gray hair and a gray moustache that curls over and hides his eyes. He was wearing a light gray sack suit and a brown derby hat. For a man who is carrying the weight of the Ministry of War and being harried day and night by men who want his job he seemed singularly unperturbed.

As he came down the steps the officers to be decorated came to the salute and stood so while the minister walked over and gave each with General Famin. M. Millerand did not return the salute and no orders were given, but after a while the officers took their swords down from their chests and the soldiers came back to

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### FRENCH GUNS WIN ARTILLERY DUEL

Silence Germans' Fire—Vigorous Fighting Goes on in Vosges.

London, Aug. 16.—Violent artillery engagements continue along the west front. The French report effective work with their guns and tell of damaging German works in several positions. On the Nouvron Plateau, north of the Aisne, the German guns were silenced.

Vigorous fighting is going on in the Vosges. Paris describes an attack on an enemy trench. After the explosion of a mine on the fortified position, a French charge resulted in the capture and the seizure of bombthrowers, and a machine gun. Berlin declares that this attack broke down under the German fire.

### FRENCH OFFICIAL

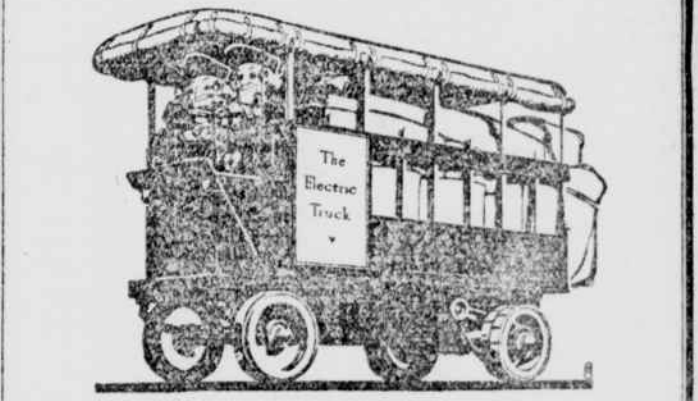
The following official communication was issued this evening in Paris: There was intermittent cannonading throughout the day on a great many points of the front.

Our batteries inflicted on the enemy heavy losses in the region of Quenneville, and silenced his fire on the Nouvron Plateau. Our own seriously damaged the German fortified works to the north of Godat (between Berry-au-Bac and Loivre). The enemy having again shelled St. Die, we opened fire on the gas works at St. Marie-aux-Mines and blew up the gas tanks.

We also shelled a German factory to the east of Muenster. The afternoon statement said: There was intermittent cannonading in the vicinity of Souchez and on the Plateau of Nouvron to the north of the River Aisne. There were also engagements with bombs and hand grenades in the sector of Quenneville, and in the western part of the Argonne.

In the Vosges the explosion of a mine against an enemy trench located between Burschlaupf and Ammertriller, made it possible for us to take some prisoners and to capture two bombthrowers and a machine gun.

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